Miss Alice Lee
3564 7th St.
7-13

CALIFORNIA GARDEN

Per Year
Fifty Cents

DECEMBER, 1912

Single Copy
Five Cents

Christmas
In the Gardens of Japan
California Wild Flowers
Plant Lore—Hibiscus—The Gardens

WE'RE ALL PUFFED UP over the fine things folks have said about our Christmas Printing. It's great fun to take your original Christmas Poem or favorite quotation and, by means of deckle-edge stock, and harmonious blending of the Christmas colors, produce a piece of work which would do credit to the original Roycrofter.

[Our Stationery Department has a box of fine Initial Stationery for 35 cents that is a real bargain]

Elite Printing Company

Phone, Main 584 ¶ 1627 E Street, between Seventh and Eighth ¶ San Diego

Bank of Commerce and Trust Company

CORNER OF FIFTH AND E STREETS
SAN DIEGO, CAL.

¶

COMMERCIAL SAVINGS

CAPITAL, SURPLUS and PROFITS OVER $640,000.00

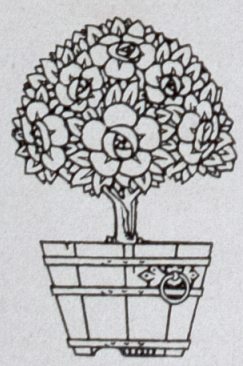
Four per Cent. Interest Paid on Term Deposits in Savings Department

Nearpass Seed Store

Established 1896

The Largest Stock of Seeds in the City. Everything fresh and reliable. A carload of Cypher Incubators just received. We are exclusive agents for San Diego County. Planet, Jr. Tools and Poultry Supplies. ; ; ; ; ; :

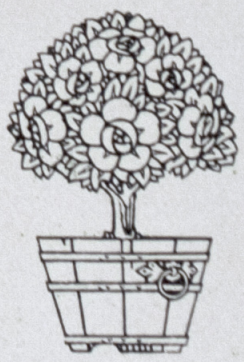
522 Sixth Street **San Diego, Cal.**



FOR AN APPROPRIATE

Christmas Present

GIVE THAT FRIEND OF YOURS



A Nice Fern, Hanging Basket or Rose Bush

HUNDREDS TO SELECT FROM AT

MISS K. O. SESSION'S MISSION HILLS NURSERY

Home Phone 4629, Main 2377

Take Third Street cars to end of line

Start Right

Let us put your Camera in order

SEE TO IT that your camera is in first-class working order before going off on that little outing. Be sure your lens is clean, so that your instrument may do its best work. Let us look over your camera, make the proper adjustments and put you in line for successful work. We make no charge for these minor adjustments. We want you to make this store your photography headquarters.

Hotel del Coronado *and* **Old Marston Building**

Harold A. Taylor Co.

NO matter how many other gifts a person may receive, a beautiful bouquet, artistically arranged is always acceptable. This is the *one* gift appropriate for any person, of any age, upon any occasion.

Get the really artistic kind of—

837 Seventh St. between E & F

Lanier

SOUTHERN TRUST & SAVINGS BANK

U. S. Grant Hotel Building

COMMERCIAL SAVINGS

WE SOLICIT YOUR BUSINESS

G. A. DAVIDSON, President

PHILIP MORSE, Vice-President

E. O. HODGE, Cashier

Blochman Banking Company

Commercial and Savings

Banking in ALL its Branches

635 FIFTH ST., SAN DIEGO, CAL.

Merchants National Bank

of San Diego

(The Roll of Honor Bank)

Granger Block, Cor. Fifth and D Sts.

Capital (Fully-paid) - -	**$100,000.00**
Surplus and Profits (All earned)	**420,000.00**

This Bank has the largest surplus of any bank in San Diego, and on the "Roll of Honor" published by "The Financier" of New York City, it not only stands *first* in the City of San Diego, but *second* in the State of California.

Every accommodation consistent with good banking extended our customers

RALPH GRANGER, President
A. H. FROST, Vice-President
W. R. ROGERS, Cashier
H. E. ANTHONY, Assistant Cashier

Fine Wire Fencing for Gardens

(When you come to buy 'em tell us you saw our ad in California Garden)

HAZARD, GOULD & COMPANY

HARDWARE

Sixth and H Streets, San Diego

We want all our friends and patrons to remember that—

We Are Moving

—about the end of this month, to 1712 F St. between 8th & 9th

One block and a half East of our present location, where we have leased a **New and Larger Store.**

We shall have a large stock of ***Fruit Trees, Ornamental Plants, Rose Bushes, &c.,*** in our yard on 7th, near F, about the end of this month.

Order now.

HARRIS SEED COMPANY,

1540 F St., between 6th and 7th
Both Phones San Diego

The California Garden

Published Monthly by the San Diego Floral Association

Fifty Cents per Year, Five Cents per Copy

Vol. 4 **POINT LOMA, CALIFORNIA, DECEMBER, 1912** **No. 6**

Christmas again. The fourth Christmas for "The California Garden". That is almost old age for a publication that has no paid staff, no solicitor, no politics, and does not offer as a premium a jack-knife or a set of decorated china. It is offering seeds, but those have been given to it. Can it be that it has lived so long because it is worth the price? Let those who have worked so hard to make it what it is, have as dressing to their turkey and sauce to their plum pudding the thought that so it is.

With the cheerful thoughts of Christmas comes the great sacrifice of the fir trees to pander to the sentiment of the season. No one with a spark of good feeling would care to clip one tinsel scale off the chil dren's good time, but it does seem that a popular move should be made to discourage the wholesale cutting of the young trees just to serve as pegs whereon to hang presents and lights for one evening. There is perhaps less excuse for this in San Diego than in most places, for the weather at Christmas will usually permit of the festivities being held out of doors with a living, growing tree as a centre. This was done at one of the public schools with marked success. In many gardens of San Diego are fine araucarias and other trees that would be glad to act as a substitute for their brothers in the hills, so that the latter might go on growing for some other and greater end.

The papers say that a party from Portland calling themselves Rosarians are to visit our city and watch the Exposition plant roses. While admiring the caution exhibited in selecting a time for the visit that will make impossible a settlement of the mote point as to whether Portland or San Diego grows the better roses. The California Garden wishes it known that we have noticed the circumstance.

The California Garden wishes its purse would permit of presenting to each owner of a garden in San Diego one dozen rose bushes, red and yellow General MacArthur and Joseph Hill, so might we prepare for 1915. Not being able to do this, it must content itself with recommending the purchase of such. Roses will be wanted in 1915, and they must be planted not by tens or twenties, but by hundreds and thousands.

Is anyone trying a wild flower plot? Beds intended for dahlias can be sown to wild flowers, which will have bloomed by the time the dahlias should be planted. The Park should have its wild flower patches and among other things acres of California poppies, whole hills of them; so many that citizens might be free to gather them at will. The Park is the people's garden, not the private preserve of the Commissioners or any other body. It is not suggested that the Commissioners have any such idea, but the public does not realize its ownership in the Park and its consequent responsibility to see that it is a big playground for all the people. It is well to have it planted and improved, but surely in fourteen hundred acres there can be an area where picking flowers is allowed. A touch-me-not garden is no garden at all, and again be it said a Park must be the people's garden.

Why not send a subscription to California Garden as a Christmas present. It

will remind the recipient of your good wishes every month for a year. It costs less than a box of fancy candy, and produces less colic.

Plant Lore

CHAS. M. SKINNER

When the legends and fables of simple times pertain to trees and flowers, they are especially luminative of the mental processes of unschooled men; for the vegetable world has changed little in three thousand years, and the marks and colors that explain some beliefs are still impressed on the leaves and petals. The symbolism adopted therefrom is wide in meaning, and to this day is in common use. It is poetic, hence it appeals to every intelligence; for while we affect to prize poetry for its beauty, to the savage it was native speech, inasmuch as his vocabulary was allegoric—a humanization of the skies, the sunsets, the storms, the flowers. We sometimes hear that ours is a material dull age, yet we perpetuate terms and usages which ally us to the childhood of the race and which stand for imagination and sheer liveliness. We still speak of laureled brows, palms of victory, the rose of beauty, the lily of purity, the oak of strength, willowy grace and corn of abundance; we extend the olive branch of peace, we put our legs under our host's mahogany, we inculcate poison by toadstools and night shade, and health by flowers and fruits. Though Baccus is no longer with us, we emblemize him in our reference to the vine. Moreover states and nations choose their flowers and certain Scottish Highlanders still wear them as badges of their clans.

The liking for these things, their service to the eye antedates history and although Shakespeare lived when there was no botany and only an enjoyment of nature instead of the study of it, his chance mention of a hundred and fifty trees and plants, hints at the regard such matters enjoyed in those days.

The very religions in all lands have fruits and trees in their cosmogonies, and plant lore opens a quaint human document in its disclosure of that self complacency which assumed the lack to be a strictly human property in which all was for the service of man and nothing existed in its own right. Out of this notion came the doctrine of signatures—"a system for discovering the medicinal uses of a plant from something in its external appearance that resembled the disease it would cure." For instance, the leaves of aspen shook, hence it must be good for shaking palsy; gromwell had a stony seed, so it was prescribed for gravel; saxifrage grew in cracks in the rocks, therefore it would crack the deposits known as stone in the bladder; knots of scrophularia were prescribed for scrofulous swellings; the pappus of scabiosa for leprosy, the spotted leaves of pulmonaria for consumption (notice how these beliefs and uses have named certain species—nettle tea was for nettle rash, blood root was for dysentery, tumeric was for jaundice, because it was the color of a jaundiced skin. Wood sorrel, having a heart shaped leaf, was a cordial or heart restorative; liverworth corrected an inactive liver, briony cured dropsy because its root suggested a swollen foot.

The estimate of plants is denoted not merely in their common use as food and ornament, but in the adoption of their names by people civilized and others. In Roman courts or public bodies where questions were put to the vote, the ancient ballot was a bean; a white one representing innocence, a black one guilt. Such then was the importance of the bean that we need feel no surprise that one of the leading families of Rome, the Fabians, should have taken the name of it. The Coepiones, the Pisones were peas. Cicero was Mr. Chick-pea. The Lentucini were the lettuce family. To this day we have among our friends the Pease, Beans, Pears, Cherrys, Berrys, Olives, Coffeys, Nutts, Chestnuts, Pines, Roses, Lillies and Asters, while our Indians excelling us in variety and fitness of names give such to their daughters as Wild Rose, Budding Poppy and Bending Lilly. And as it was honorable to employ the name of a plant, a tree, a flower in naming a dignified family of a dignified race, it came about easily that such a plant, or tree, or flower, was in place about the homes, the tombs, the temples, of that family and that in time it was borne upon the family coat of arms.

Mr. Edward Rust of the South Pasadena Palm Nurseries has been experimenting with choice ericas. He finds that they thrive in the open sun, if the ground surface is thoroughly protected by a mulching of shavings and kept moist—a good spraying overhead once in two weeks has been sufficient watering.

Back to the Soil

This is meant for the gardener in these parts and is not the war cry of a league to transplant city misfits to the country, where they possibly may fit even worse. That is not our business, though surely the country should have some consideration. November should see a good rain. It has happened, and if this be one of our fortunate years the mist that gently falls as this is written, is only the John the Baptist for a real good soaker. The wise man or woman, and really in these days of equal sexage, or no sexage, (some word must be coined that will mean neither a man nor a woman, but both, for person is impossible with its contumelious usage of the past) will start to thoroughly irrigate everything prior to a revel of digging. Not a mere scratching with a rake, or chopping with a hoe, but a deep, satisfying turning of the earth for a foot or more, till the smell of it is like mushrooms cooking and the worms wriggle everywhere in surprised perturbation. All summer the garden soil has been kept loose for three or four inches, but below that has been formed a hard layer, which should be broken up to let in the winter rains. This is especially the case where the wheel hand cultivators have been used. Naturally, this does not mean a massacre of all the rooted things in the garden, and among shrubs and trees a spading fork should be used with judgment. Dig under your fallen leaves, the soil of San Diego craves them, and use some air slaked lime to top dress. The office of this lime is to render more easy of assimilation the plant food in the soil and to counteract the tendency to sourness much irrigated and fertilized ground will have, especially if shaded. Unless it is intended to fertilize again, it is better not to turn in a dressing this first time, except in the adobes, because the majority of our soil is so leachy that plant food is soon carried out of the reach of the plants by much water. These porous soils require fertilizer in little and often doses. If the adobe and sandy gardens could be mixed half and half, both would benefit. Many owners of gardens cannot and very many more will not do this delectable digging themselves, but they should at least be present at part if not all the operation. It is the laying of the corner stone of the garden for the coming year and should be regarded in the light of a sacred ceremony, almost. So many folks fail as gardeners because they miss all the delightful sentiment of the occupation, and unless the scents of the garden convey more than a mere pleasant tickling to the nose, and its colors suggest a something behind, that the best prepared paint utterly lacks, that garden is wasting its fragrance on the desert air, as far as its owner is concerned. There is plenty of evidence to support the theory that man is merely allowed to make a garden and blow himself out with pride in its possession just to accommodate its real owners, the birds and the bees, the lizards and frogs, and even the bugs and the slugs, just as many a man thinks he takes his dog for a walk when it is perfectly evident the dog is taking him.

Get back to the soil, oh ye gardeners of San Diego! Dig it, sit on it, roll on it, mould it in your hands, enjoy it. With the most modern ideas on child education, we find a tendency to believe that natural instincts of growth guide actions that hitherto have been summarily checked. There is nothing the normal child likes as playing in the dirt and therein may it not be that his taste is wiser than his parents? There is such a thing as healthy dirt, if not clean dirt.

Work in the Garden

By Fanny L. Ryan

This month one may finish planting Dutch bulbs. Also plant Japanese lilies, Easter lilies, pansies, stocks, sweet peas, phlox, mignonette, alyssum and cosmos. Deciduous trees of all kinds may be transplanted from now on throughout the winter and spring.

Chrysanthemums will have finished their great display for the season. Dig them up and heel in some out-of-the way place. Work the soil deeply where they grew and fill it with bulbs. Late flowering Tulips, Narcissus and Hyacinths, will all make a gorgeous display before it is again time to plant Chrysanthemums.

New plantings of rose gardens should be made this month and that too, with bare root instead of balled plants.

Cut tops off to within a foot of the root. There is no necessity of the laborious and

expensive method of digging rose-bushes with a ball of earth at this season of the year.

If properly planted and cared for until April first they will have made new roots, and produce a bountiful crop of flowers. Cool weather will soon end the dahlia crop for the season. When that time arrives, dig up the tubers and store them in a dry place, covered with sand to prevent shriveling.

Dig a trench two feet deep where they grew and bury the tops, tramping them in solid with any other rubbish found in the garden. They add humus to the soil, and the process aerates it, which increases its productivity.

Many persons make the mistake of setting small house plants in pots that are too large for them.

These large pots require more window space than would be needed for smaller ones, and with some kinds of plants it tends to lessen the amount of bloom.

There appears to be a sort of instinct in many plants that prompts them to put forth their best efforts to reproduce themselves when their environment does not seem conducive to their own long life.

As nature's way for most plants to reproduce themselves is by seed, and seed is produced only in the flower, a show of bloom is made by the plants when the roots are somewhat crowded and the supply of soil not too great.

Most experienced florists claim that the best method is that of repotting plants into larger pots only as they actually need the increased space. The right time to move a plant from a small to a large pot is shown by the roots beginning to mat around the outside of the ball of earth next to the edge of the pot.

The ball of earth may easily be removed from a pot by turning the pot upside down and tapping it slightly on the edge of a table. Be sure and provide for good drainage in the new pot by putting a few pieces of broken porous crockery (small pieces of broken flower-pot answer admirably) in the bottom.

Looking backward for a few years we remember that the demand for salvias was almost entirely for those of brilliant scarlet, the improved types of salvia splendens being most in favour. A slow but healthful change has been taking place in popular taste and now the call is for blue salvias. Some of the new and better types of these are much to be desired over the coarse, flamboyant types of a decade ago.

Perennials are also much preferred to the transitory annuals, for we should plant for permanence wherever possible and use incidentals only as we fancy them.

Hibiscus in San Diego

Miss K. O. Sessions

The hibiscus is one of our most attractive shrubs and quite to be envied by our neighbors who live in a colder belt. The large single red—occurring in several shades—is the most desirable for general culture, and the rich scarlet red shade is preferable to the one favoring a pink or purplish tone. The double red occurs in two shades—the H. purpuria bears a large flower very abundantly and lasts well through the winter. The dark red variety is a very feeble grower, but has a handsome foliage and beautiful flower. This variety needs more extensive cultivation and must be favored in its location. The double pink, known as the "peachblow," is also a very vigorous grower and free bloomer, but unless carefully placed among shrubs and the bright color effects, it becomes a discord, rather than a harmony, in the garden scheme. To use the blooms without stems as rosettes with ferns, upon the evening dinner table, gives a charming effect because the coloring is very beautiful by artificial light.

There is now a very fine single yellow variety that is excellent in its tone of color, with a good-sized bloom—a free grower with excellent foliage and promises to be a feature of the garden, second only to the scarlet variety. At the residence of Mr. Geo. S. Gay, of Coronado, the writer only this past month discovered a very large and thrifty plant, of a single white hibiscus that seemed very pleasing. The flowers were not as large as the scarlet, more cup shaped and the pistil and stamens were very striking and of a good red color. The foliage was sturdy and abundant but dull in color and rough in texture. If it is an evergreen it will be a very desirable addition to the collection.

A few years ago I had sent to me from Honolulu, some hibiscus slips but only one cutting grew into a shrub. It is a

single lavender hibiscus, deciduous, and typical of the Rose of Sharon variety.

The Rose of Sharon is a hardy hibiscus extensively planted in the milder climates of the colder belt. They occur in several shades, the pure white being the more desirable. Mr. O. J. Stough has the finest specimen of this shrub in his garden at Ivy and Fourth. He is very fond of it because it flourished in his mother's garden.

Honolulu gardens are conspicuous with the single red hibiscus and we can have them as fine here. Their dormant season is from February to April. About April 15th they need a fair pruning and cultivating and as the warm weather comes in they grow rapidly and bloom profusely and continually after July 1.

To plant out from pot or transplant larger specimens in the fall or winter is very unsatisfactory—Hibiscus make an excellent shrub for the parking of the sidewalk. The hedge-like row in the west side of the U. S. Grant residence at Ninth and Ash Sts. has been a very satisfactory planting.

Dahlias

By Alfred D. Robinson

Though dahlias seem a most unseasonable topic, I am forced to remark a few about them by the many inquiries I have received, particularly as to what to do with them at this season. Mine are already out of the ground. I cut the stalks off to within six inches of the tuber, left them a week or so and then dug them carefully, leaving the tubers out in the sun till thoroughly dried off. When dry they were placed under a cypress tree, right side up, but not on top of one another, and there they will stay till planting time next year. I have found this method successful and embodying the least possible trouble. Of course they were tagged while blooming for identification. When no such shelter as a tree can be had, they can be stored in a shed, but should be on racks if possible.

Dahlias will winter very well undug, but then they will start to grow very early in the year and do not seem to have the same vigor as the tubers that have been dried off.

I here take occasion to say that the very late seedlings have not grown, but have made a little tuber and called it off. With these small tubers I leave them in the ground, as they otherwise have a tendency to dry up altogether.

With regard to the dahlia seed given as a premium, it is not recommended to sow it before the end of February, and even then it should be put in boxes and given some protection. Before that time more explicit directions will be given in the Garden.

The Poultry Show

The big San Diego poultry show opens Tuesday, December 17th, and will continue through the 22nd. It will be one of the coast's important shows. The Fanciers' club is offering larger cash prizes for the winners than any coast club has ever offered hitherto. The inducements have brought entries from the best yards in California and the exhibits will be of unsurpassed quality. San Diego county breeders will be represented by large strings of birds. The exhibit of cats, dogs, and other pet stock, and of pigeons will be of marked quality. The show will be well worth attending.

California
WILD FLOWERS

Why not sow that piece of waste ground with California Wild Flower Seeds? Put them in early and get the benefit of the rains. They grow quickly and will convert that waste spot into a marvel of beauty for many months. My Illustrated Booklet

"California Wild Flowers"

describing upwards of 100 species, with notes on their culture, mailed upon receipt of 10 cents.

Theodore Payne

345 South Main St., Los Angeles

CALIFORNIA WILD FLOWERS

By THEODORE PAYNE, Los Angeles

(Continued from the November Number.)

Perennials.

In perennials I will first mention the Penstemons. Of these we have several species. P. spectabilis is perhaps the most showy of all. The plants grow from four to seven feet high. The flowers are large and in great spikes, often three feet long, color is the richest combination of blue and royal purple. P. centranthifolius (Scarlet Bugler) has long spikes of rich vermilion flowers which contrast well with the handsome glaucous foliage. P. cordifolius or Scarlet Honeysuckle, as it is often called, is a tall, woody plant, usually growing among shrubs, which is uses for support, the flowers are bright orange scarlet. P. heterophyllus (Violet Beard's Tongue) is a low, bushy plant, with narrow, pale green leaves and spikes of trumpet-shaped flowers, royal purple marked with pink. These four species are all valuable for planting in dry places.

Delphinium Cardinale (Scarlet Larkspur)

Of the native larkspurs there are two species quite worth cultivating. Delphinium cardinale (Scarlet Larkspur), a tall, branching plant with long spikes of vivid scarlet flowers, and D. Parryii (Blue Larkspur), which grows from two to three feet high and has bright blue flowers.

Mimulus cardinalis (Scarlet Monkey Flower) has pale green leaves and bright scarlet flowers with yellow throat; this grows along streams and would require a moist place.

The Castillejas or paint brushes are exceedingly showy flowers. C. Martini grows generally on dry hillsides and has bright scarlet flower bracts. C. foliolosa is a little more inclined to pink, but contrasts well with the white wooly stems and leaves. C. California usually grows a little taller than either of the preceding, and is perhaps the most showy of all; has dark colored stems and rich scarlet flower bracts.

A flower which should be invaluable for cutting purposes is the Sea Dahlia (Coreopsis maritima), which produces large blossoms on long stems, of a rich lemon-yellow color.

The Shooting Star (Dodecatheon Clevelandi) is a very pretty little plant with fragrant flowers in shape like the cyclamen and varying in color from delicate lilac to pure white. The petals are ringed at the base with pale yellow and the beak of the flower is violet purple. The plants are easily grown and transplant well, but require plenty of water.

Lobelia splendens is found in wet places and along streams in the upper portion of the chaparral belt of our mountains; grows two to four feet high and produces long spikes of cardinal red flowers. The Columbine (Aquilegia truncata) is also found along streams. The flowers are deep scarlet, tipped with yellow; plants grow two to three feet high and have slender, graceful stems with beautifully

escalloped leaves. The two foregoing species would both require plenty of water, but are certainly worthy of cultivation.

The Matilija Poppy (Romneya Coulteri) is of course, cultivated to some extent, but should be more generally appreciated. It has often been termed the Queen of California flowers, and is truly a majestic plant. The blossoms are often six or seven inches in diameter, pure

Castilleja Martini (Indian Paint Brush)

glistening white with yellow centers.

One of the most handsome of our native flowers is the Wild Wallflower (Erysimum asperum), an erect growing plant, two to four feet high, producing long spikes of large orange-colored flowers.

A valuable plant for dry banks is the California Fuchsia (Zauschneria Californica). It has woody stems and gray green leaves covered with soft wool. The flowers are trumpet-shaped and of a vivid scarlet color. This plant grows on dry banks, and is remarkable for its very free flowering qualities.

Solanum Xanti (Violet Nightshade) also grows in dry sandy situations. The plants are of shrubby growth, with rich, green foliage and clusters of violet blue flowers. Solanum Wallacei is a handsome species which grows on Catalina island. It has rather heavy, woolly foliage, and deep violet flowers.

Another shrubby plant is the Venegasia carpesioides, which forms quite a bush, often six or seven feet high, with an

Penstemon Spectabilis (Blue Penstemon)

abundance of large, glossy, bright green leaves and flowers in shape something like a Marguerite, but of a pale lemon yellow color.

(To be continued.)

In the Gardens of Japan

By F. W. POPENOE, of the West India Gardens, Altadena, California

Upon arriving in Japan, a Californian cannot help being impressed by the luxuriance of vegetation which greets the eye. On all sides the hills and valleys are clothed with verdure of varying shades of green, making a picture of almost tropical beauty that would not be expected in a temperate latitude. It naturally requires a very favorable climate to produce such a growth of vegetation; with her mild winters and hot, humid summers Japan must come about as near to supplying ideal conditions for plant growth as it is possible to find outside of the tropics, but like all other countries where vegetation runs rampant, cultivated fruits do not seem to reach the perfection that they attain in a semi-arid region such as Southern California.

Conifers and bamboos, with an undergrowth of shrubs and ferns, cover the mountainsides and extend down to the cultivated areas. One sees among these members of the indigenous flora many species which are common in California gardens, particularly in regard to ferns, of which, doubtless, all the common species that are worth growing have many years ago been introduced to America and been widely disseminated. Some of the Japanese shrubs, too, have already become common in California gardens, as have also the best bamboos.

Wherever it is possible to put in a crop the land is under cultivation, the density of population necessitating the greatest economy of space and the constant cultivation of the soil to its greatest productive capacity. Many of the hillsides, such as we would never think of using in California, are covered by a succession of terraces, and planted with "paddy", as rice is commonly called, or other food crops. In the valleys practically every inch of ground is under cultivation. Most crops are grown in small patches, surrounded by low ridges to retain the water when irrigating; with rice, as is well known, it is necessary to keep the fields inundated through a large part of the growing season.

The Japanese farmer practices intensive cultivation of the most practical kind, and he does not confine himself to one crop, but cultivates four or five different food products, thus making almost his entire living from the soil, and proving that he is a believer in diversified agriculture. Apart from rice, one of the commonest food plants is the Colocasia, said to be one of the oldest cultivated vegetables in the world. Yams and beans of various kinds are also grown, and the egg-plant seems to be a particular favorite.

It must be admitted, however, that of the vegetables grown in Japan which are also grown in the western world, they have no choice varieties, despite centuries of cultivation and a natural fondness for plant life on the part of the people. Introductions of choice forms from Europe or America do not appear to have been made, Japanese seedsmen, if there are any such, evidently not being as enterprising in this line as are Europeans or Americans. If introductions have been made, they have had no effect on the country at large, and the Japanese farmer goes on cultivating year after year varieties of egg-plant with fruits no larger than an apple, squashes with enormous seed cavities in proportion to the amount of flesh, and so on down the list. The Imperial Department of Agriculture certainly has an opportunity to do some important work for the truck farmers.

As compared to Japanese fruits, however, the vegetables are so fine as to deserve a place in Burpee's catalog. It has been pointed out that the climate of Japan is unfavorable for fruit culture; nevertheless a number of fruits are grown in considerable quantities. One of the most popular is the pear, of which two varieties appear to be in common cultivation. Both are roundish-oblate, one being russet in color and the other light yellow. Although quite juicy, the flesh is woody and flavourless, making a fruit which is, on the whole, of about as little value as one could find. The method used in growing these pears is interesting, however. A bamboo frame is placed over the young orchard about six feet above the ground, and as the branches grow up through this they are bent over and tied down to the frame. No

branches are allowed to remain underneath. By following this method each fruit is brought into full sunlight and given the best possible chance to ripen perfectly. In a climate so humid during the summer months, undoubtedly the ripening of the fruits is a rather difficult matter.

Prof. Chamberlain has remarked that the Japanese peach is first cousin to a brickbat. Although this is pretty strong condemnation, it almost seems to be true, for though attractive in appearance and of good size, it would be hard to find peaches that have so little else to recommend them.

In plums, however, Japan can give a better account of herself, and the same may be said of the loquat and persimmon. The latter in particular seems to be quite a pet, and to have reached a fairly high state of improvement. The loquat is quite common in dooryards, but appears to be grown to a very limited extent as a commercial fruit; I daresay a glance at C. P. Taft's enormous loquat orchard in Orange county would open the eyes of some of the Japanese horticulturists. In the southern part of Japan a few small plantations were noted, which while scarcely deserving to be called orchards, were in excellent conditon and doubtless give a good account of themselves in the fruiting season. Considering the length of time it has been in cultivation, the Japanese have not produced any noteworthy improvements in this fruit.

The Persimmon, or "kaki", is grown in almost every back yard. I was given some of the dried fruit to eat, which tasted not unlike dried figs, and was fully as good.

But if the Japanese has been negligent in the improvement of his fruits and vegetables, he certainly has not been in the development of ornamental gardening, as all of us know. There is no gainsaying the fact that every Japanese is an artist, and each one has naturally worked on the assumption that it was more important for him to devote his efforts to the perfection of landscape art than to produce a cabbage with heads big enough to find in the dark.

To my mind, the small gardens show off the beauty of the Japanese style to much better advantage than the more pretentious ones. A few very large gardens can be seen in Tokyo and other cities, but in almost every dooryard is a miniature landscape, sometimes only six by eight feet in extent, but invariably a perfect gem. It cannot help occuring to one as he gazes on such a garden, that the effect is infinitely superior to that produced by annuals or a shrub or two, which would occupy the same space in an American dooryard. We cannot, I suppose, adapt this style of gardening to our Southern California homes, with our vastly different style of architecture; nevertheless, I think it could be much more widely used than it is at present, to good effect. There are many small corners in pergolas and fernerries where a Japanese garden would not look out of place, and were it rightly arranged, the effect created by it would certainly be a surprise to everyone. Very few plants are required for these small gardens,—dwarf conifers and maples in poreclain pots, a few moss covered rocks, with perhaps the addition of a small stone lantern,—and a picture could be created that would be a constant source of pleasure and satisfaction to the gardener.

Next regular meeting of the Floral Association at San Diego Club House, Friday evening, January 10.

BUDDED AVOCADOS

of choicest and most valuable varieties, now ready. The TAFT, California's premier avocado, boxed or balled, $4 per tree.

FEIJOAS, CHERIMOYAS

and other sub-tropical fruiting plants and trees. We grow only sub-tropical fruits of proven adaptability and of sterling merit. Send for pamphlet.

WEST INDIA GARDENS

ALTADENA, CALIFORNIA

Pickings and Peckings

By The Early Bird

The early bird met a brother, who had been up all night. Both being full, one of worms, they stopped to talk. The early bird did the talking, though he would have denied more than his half, if questioned. "What is this about a home for the Floral Association, a sort of concentration of art studios? Has San Diego artists and art appreciators enough to make such a thing possible?" "Art centre nothing! Going to haxe Exposition," ejaculated the all-nighter. "Yes, I know we are outlining an exhibition in the Park and dredging a harbor alongside the one God made, besides scarifying hill and valley with subdivisions, but is not that the reason we have no time for the 'frills of art', as the business man would say? I have heard it moted by those who make a profession of counting noses that the city grows in excess of 1500 people a month. Why do they come to San Diego? Because of the exposition, the harbor, the subdivision or because San Diego, with her climate, bay and hills, is essentially what God made her? The promoters of each feature would claim the credit excepting the deity, who perhaps may smile. However, it is encouraging to assume that in San Diego's publicity web it has caught a variety of flies, among them some to whom concrete and asphalt and the sticks and stones of building are the least of her attributes. Even if such a leaven is too small to influence the mass, there is hope for the Art Centre in the fact that the possession of such has a flavor both metropolitan and cosmopolitan and talks big on advertising folders. Boost for the Art Centre. We can show it to visiting delegations."

So Max Watson is to reforest our watershed. Now will the eucalyptus family rejoice and the seeds of the Conifera be glad, so ought San Diego, for if the politicians will only leave Max alone he will make a job of it. Here is a Merry Christmas to the man who thought of the reforestration and Max Watson in conjunction. He should keep on thinking, and may be some day he can evolve trees for our barren streets and shade, by the way, for the traveler within our gates. The early bird went over to Riverside, having heard that the dog days were over, and stayed at its charming Mission Inn, but that was merely by the way. The real feature of the visit was an auto drive twenty-eight miles long through stately avenues, all in the city, all the growth of a few years, all in the way of casual traffic. Magnolia Avenue, which, by the way, has very few magnolias, is a bigger asset than anything man has done in this community. Riverside could better afford to dispense with her oranges than her famous avenue, and it is merely one among many. Hats off to Riverside and her tree-lined boulevards. She will never lack champions to fight her battles, even if some months in the year they must strip to their shirts to avoid suffocation. Why is there not an avenue from San Diego to El Cajon, another to National City, one the length of Mission Valley, where the blue gum would reach a hundred feet in fifteen years or less? Echo answers, why? But no man can give a reasonable answer. There just isn't.

Cut Flowers

Floral Designs

Questions Answered

By GEO. P. HALL

W. E. A., San Diego says: I read some time since in one of your articles how to keep wire or point grass out of lawns, I mislaid the article and did not think I would need it so soon. What shall I do? When is the best time to transplant grape fruit and orange trees? When and how to slip carnations and roses?

Answer: I do not know how strong a hold the joint grass has got in your lawn, but if any considerable portion is covering the other grass, the only way will be to dig out the spot where it has entrenched itself and pick out every minute particle of the roots and turn them up to dry. If it is just appearing, pull out the grass and with a small oil can inject kerosene or gasoline at the root where you pulled growing grass from it. Watch closely for any appearance of the extension of a root and inject the coal oil. If the grass is permitted to extend far it will undermine and overlap the entire lawn.

I take it you have some large orange and grape fruit to transplant; if so, the trees must be cut back severely to such branches as will in the future form a good shaped tree. Take up all the root system possible and transplant no deeper than it was before. Citrus trees planted deep are apt to "gum." If they are trees you are getting from a nursery do not plant in either case during cold weather. April and May are the best months for planting all citrus fruits. If planted after the vernal equinox, when we generally have biting cold wind and if after the trees have been planted new growth has started, the wind will kill the young growth and sometimes the tree. From April to July is as good time as any to transplant citrus trees.

In making carnation cuttings, the best are from plants that you have not permited to bloom too much. The cutting should be taken from near the base and should have an inch or more of clean stem. If too long and must be cut, use a sharp knife and cut at or above a bud. Temperature from 55 to 65 deg. is the best for propagation and the cuttings should be put in clean sharp sand in a box three inches deep well packed. Keep them

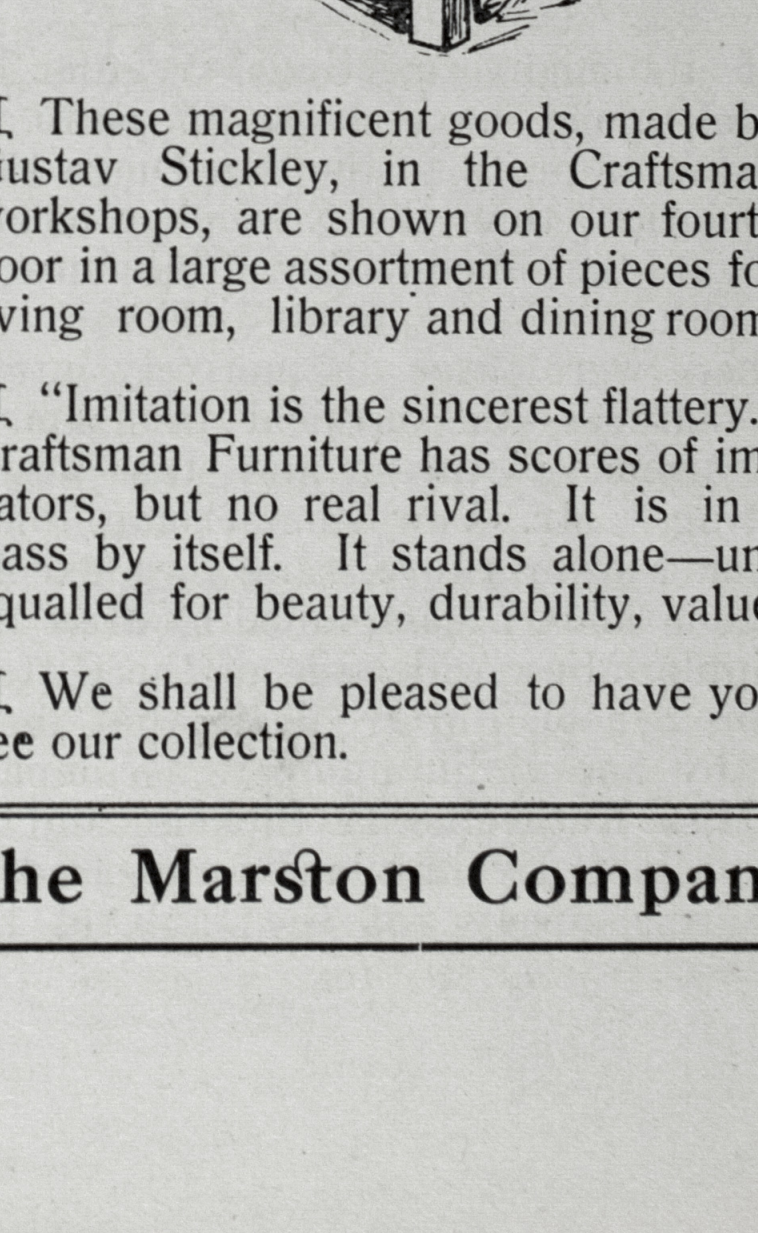
(Continued on Pag 15)

The Marston Company

Sole Agent in San Diego for

The Original and Genuine

CRAFTSMAN FURNITURE



¶ These magnificent goods, made by Gustav Stickley, in the Craftsman workshops, are shown on our fourth floor in a large assortment of pieces for living room, library and dining room.

¶ "Imitation is the sincerest flattery." Craftsman Furniture has scores of imitators, but no real rival. It is in a class by itself. It stands alone—unequalled for beauty, durability, value.

¶ We shall be pleased to have you see our collection.

The Marston Company

The California Garden

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

The San Diego Floral Association

Main Office, Point Loma, California

Secretary's Office, 1627 E St., San Diego, Cal.

Entered as second-class matter December 8, 1910, at the post office at Point Loma, California, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

California Garden is on the list of publications authorized by the San Diego Retail Merchants Association.

Subscription, 50 Cents per year

ADVERTISING RATES

One Page	$10.00	Half Page,	$5.00
Quarter Page	2.50	Eighth Page	1.50

Advertising Copy should be in by the 25th of each Month

Elite Printing Co. 1627 E St., San Diego

Next Meeting Friday, January 10
San Diego Club House

On account of the usual Christmas activities, and because it is desired to have a large attendance at the next meeting, no regular meeting will be held in December. The January meeting will be held on the evening of Friday, the tenth, at the San Diego Club House. Harold A. Taylor will exhibit his autochrome pictures, with additional new ones, and some from the Yosemite Valley. The next step toward the association home project will be taken, and all members and interested friends are invited to be present.

THE NOVEMBER MEETING AN IMPORTANT EVENT.

Of its many meetings, regular and special, none have been of more real pleasure or profit to the San Diego Floral Association, than the November meeting, held at the Wednesday Clubhouse, on the 19th.

There were three distinctively interesting features—the musical program, the autochrome pictures, and the business meeting. Mr. Van Zimmerman, of the Lanier Flower Store, sang two excellent baritone solos, accompanied by Miss Maud Whipple, Miss Anderson, of the Gittelson Violin School, did credit to that institution by her violin number, accompanied by Miss Katherine P. Sickels, and that these talented young ladies appeared only once was surely not the fault of those

Xmas!

Just arrived! All kinds of

Japanese Plants for Christmas Presents

Agaria, Cameria, Dwarf Pine,
Kentia Palm, Sago Palm.
Ferns a Specialty.
Fruit Trees.
Cut Flowers.

at the

NIPPON NURSERY

Seventh and E Sts.

DANGER!

NO danger to your children if you use

Electric Lights

No Lamps to explode when tipped over
No fumes to injure health

San Diego Consolidated Gas & Electric Company.

present. Dr. and Mrs. L. A. Viersen, old friends of the association, accompanied by Mrs. Wells, sang one of their always pleasing tenor and soprano duets as a finale to the business meeting.

The autochrome stereopticon pictures, exhibited by Mr. Harold A. Taylor, demonstrated the wonderful strides made in color production by photography. The plates were made in the Cuyamaca mountains after the frost had given its artistic touch to vine and tree, and the wonder fully rich colorings of the autumn leaves, together with the most delicate blending of color effects of distant mountain and sky, were reproduced on the canvas with absolute truthfulness.

In the business meeting, President A. D. Robinson touched upon the lessons of the past in order to point out the needs of the future, in the matter of a permanent home for the association. He found his hearers in accord with the idea of taking some definite step toward the accomplishment of this undertaking, and several plans were discussed in a general way. Whatever the final plan decided upon may be, all are agreed that it must be large enough to accommodate the floral exhibitions, with an additional assembly room, where floral talks, lectures, entertainments or social gatherings may be held in conjunction with the shows. It has also been suggested that it might be made with studios around a court, forming an art center, and that the interior of the hall could be made of material permitting of the proper display of art exhibits.

The final understanding arrived at was, that the association needs a home, now is the time to start the movement, and it only remains for the directors to do the preliminary work of forming an association for the proper handling of the project.

With this much decided upon, it would seem that the long-talked-of Floral Association Home scheme may be considered launched, and our assertion of the unusual importance of the November meeting is proven.

(Continued from Page 13)

moist and neither too hot nor cold, with morning exposure to the sun.

When the days are longer and not so much difference in the night temperature from the day, about April, will be a good time to make the cuttings and have

STEADY
PERMANENT
GROWTH

As shown by the record of this Bank during the past Twenty-Three Years, is an indication of conservative management and public confidence. : : : : :

INTEREST PAID ON DEPOSITS

THE
San Diego
Savings Bank

Keating Block, Fifth and F Sts.

M. T. Gilmore, President
J. W. Sefton, Jr., Vice Pres.
E. M. Barber, Cashier
C. L. Reed, Ass't Cash.

HAVE A REAL
Landscape Gardener
beautify your home garden

HE will positively cost less money, will give you better results and more pleasure. My long experience and professional training will solve your garden problem.

Large or small jobs appreciated

EDGAR JOHANSEN
Office with HARRIS SEED CO.
F Street bet. Sixth and Seventh
P. O. Box 364
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

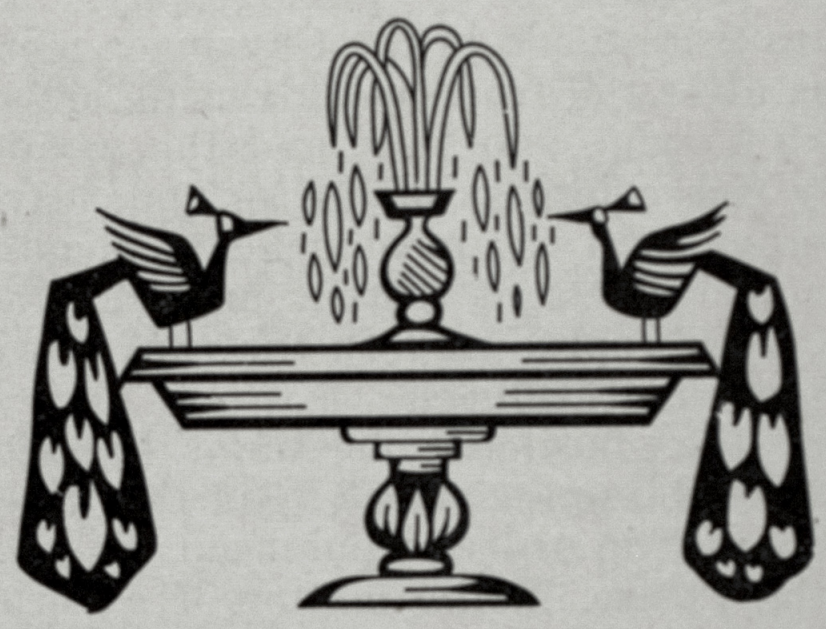
them for bloom in about four months. Avoid a cutting with a bud on it and if it has pinch it off, as it will mature into a flower before it will turn attention to making a strong cutting and so will take longer to get down to business.

About Roses.

Roses are generally propagated in November, from cuttings of mature wood of the current year and can be made 2 or 3 inches long. The operation may be continued through December. They should be planted in flats or pans in sand and if kept at a temperature of about 50 deg. they will root by February and can be repotted or set out in the open ground in May. If you put in the cuttings where they are to stay and only one in a place where you wish them to grow, make the cuttings six or eight inches long and put all in the ground but one bud, dig out the place where you are going to start them and fill it with sand, then plant the cutting in this place keep it moist and protected from wind. Good results are obtained in this way. This is recommended for the hardier varieties. The reason why so many fail in raising roses in California is because they are not content to give the rose a moments rest. They expect roses every day and twice the supply on Sunday, while the only real successful rose growers are those who give their roses a rest, by witholding water or extra nutrition a portion of the time for the rose desires definite periods of rest. Some of the best roses for Southern California are Duchess de Brabant, Mad. Cecil Brunner, among the climbers, Gold of Ophir, and Banksia. People will plant roses in a lawn or in a border where they are watered all the time and given no opportunity to rest. The rose really needs as much rest as it gets in the countries where it freezes up and the grower has no alternative but to let it rest, sometimes perpetually. Here you can divide the periods of rest into three or four different periods if you have your roses where you can control them, but if on a lawn which you water nearly every day, you have no means of giving the rose the required repose to recuperate and gather strength for a new crop of bloom.

Remember the January 10 meeting at San Diego Club House.

The Jungle Fowl



—that saw Kipling's Mowgli ride the elephant, migrated to ***Rosecroft***, where it has raised a numerous family of the most successful bug hunters known to science or anybody else. These birds think a lath-house their native jungle and drive forth or eat all other animals. Get a pair and see them make the wood-lice fly, the worm crawl, and the bug die. A few pairs for sale at $5.00.

Report says you cannot import them for twice that sum, and that a Gould paid into the hundreds for a trio. We won't sell any to the Goulds.

Barred Rocks as ever.

See them at the show.

Rosecroft
Barred Rock Yards

Point Loma, California

S. T. SEARS, Manager

A. D. ROBINSON Proprietor

Bulbs! Bulbs!

HOWARD & SMITH'S

famous selections have proven to be the best suited to our California conditions, and have produced prize winning blooms wherever shown.

OUR 1912 BULB CATALOGUE is ready for mailing and will be sent prepaid on application.

INCIDENTALLY, we will have

300,000 Dormant Two-Year-Old Budded Roses

ready for delivery November 1st.

HOWARD & SMITH

City Depot: Cor. 9th and Olive
Both Phones

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA
P. O. Box 484

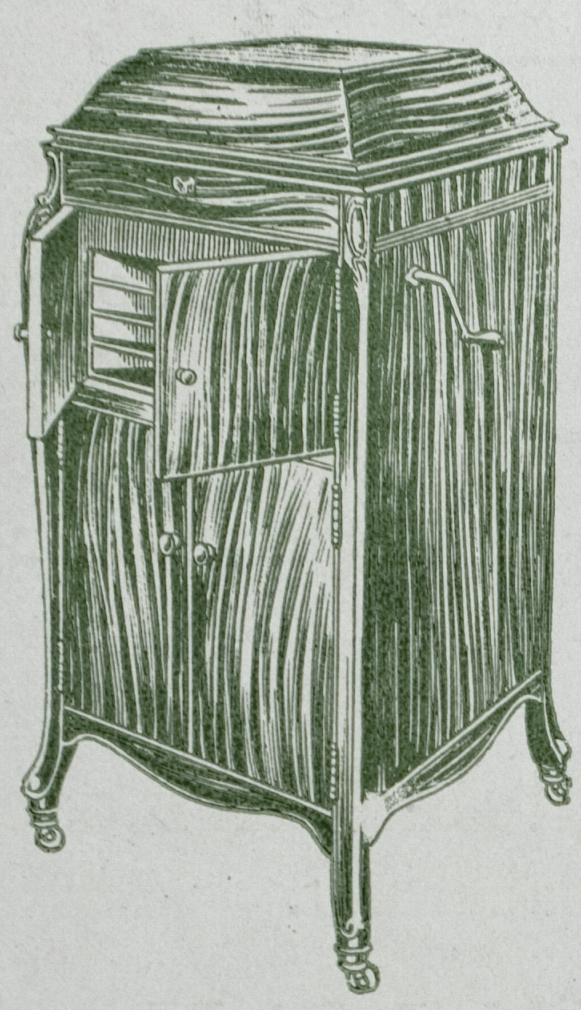
Capitol Lawn Trimmers

Pennsylvania and West Lake Lawn Mowers
Bull Dog and Nile Garden Hose

658 Fifth Street — San Diego Hardware Co.

A package of Rosecroft Dahlia Seed with a *new subscription* to California Garden---50 cents *this* year---liable to be more next year. *Subscribe now.*

GRAY, MAW, THOMPSON
MUSIC CO. INC.



Cull all the Flowers of Song
From the Field of Music—

The Victrola was invented
to do this for you—
Let us show *you* how
We carry all styles, $15 to $250

GRAY, MAW, THOMPSON
MUSIC CO. Inc.
1256-1260 Fifth St. *1256-1260 Fifth St.*

Steinway Pianos, Kurtzmann Pianos
Kranich & Bach, Sohmer, Estey, etc.

Phones—Pianos, Tuning & Office
Pacific, Main 2639; Home, 3521

Sheet Music, Small Goods, Victor
Dept.—Main 304; Home, 1099

Marine National Bank

San Diego Cal.

We would appreciate your business

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS
G. W. FISHBURN, President
F. A. GARETSON, Vice-President
Garetson-Greason Lumber Co., St. Louis, Mo.
B. P. CHENEY, *Director A. T. & S. F. Ry.*
C. H. WAGNER, *Gen. Mgr. Russ Lumber Co.*
J. E. FISHBURN, *Pres. National Bank of California, Los Angeles*
O. L. SELLERS, Cashier

¶
SAFE DEPOSIT BOXES FOR RENT

IF you contemplate making a change in your present banking connections, or are thinking of opening another account, please bear us in mind.

WE WANT YOUR BUSINESS, let it be large or small, and will at all times do our best to make you feel at home.

IN our *Term Account Department* you are allowed interest from date of deposit, compounded semi-annually.